



Short communication

Identification of candidate antimicrobial peptides derived from abalone hemocyanin

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ABSTRACT

Hemocyanins present in invertebrate hemolymph are multifunctional proteins, responsible for oxygen transport and contributing to innate immunity through phenoloxidase-like activity. In arthropods, hemocyanin has been identified as a source of broad-spectrum antimicrobial peptides during infection. Conversely, no hemocyanin-derived antimicrobial peptides have been reported for molluscs. The present study describes a putative antimicrobial region, termed haliotisin, located within the linking sequence between the α -helical domain and β -sheet domain of abalone (*Haliotis tuberculata*) hemocyanin functional unit E. A series of synthetic peptides based on overlapping fragments of the haliotisin region were tested for their bactericidal potential. Incubating Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria in the presence of certain haliotisin peptides, notably peptides 3–4–5 (DTFDYKKFGYRYSLELEGRSISRIDELIQQRQEKDRTFAGFLKGFSGTSAS) led to reductions in microbial growth. Furthermore, transmission electron micrographs of haliotisin-treated bacteria revealed damages to the microbial cell wall. Data discussed here provides the first evidence to suggest that molluscan hemocyanin may act as a source of anti-infective peptides.

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1. Introduction

In the absence of acquired immunity and the ability to produce clonally derived immunoglobulins, marine invertebrates rely solely on innate immunity to survive the microbiologically challenging and varied environment (reviewed by Ellis et al., 2011). Invertebrate immunity can be categorised broadly into three lines of defence: physical (exoskeleton), cellular and humoral. While cellular immunity (phagocytosis and encapsulation) is facilitated by a heterogeneous population of immune cells (hemocytes; reviewed by Smith, 2010), humoral immunity

involves a battery of hemolymph-based bioactive compounds, including antimicrobial peptides (AMPs; reviewed by Zänker, 2010). AMPs are produced by certain organs (hepatopancreas, digestive tract and gills) and circulating hemocytes in response to infection, wounding or abiotic stressors such as temperature (De Zoysa et al., 2010; Tassanakajon et al., 2014). Conventional AMPs are ~15 to 60 amino acids in length, ranging from 1.5 to 8 kDa in size, positively charged (cationic), amphipathic and containing $\geq 30\%$ hydrophobic residues (reviewed by Brogden, 2005; Smith et al., 2010). The majority of known AMPs come from the processing of larger inactive proteins, however, some studies suggest that biologically active proteins, such as hemocyanin (Lee et al., 2003) and hemoglobin (Ullal et al., 2008), can be altered to produce microbicidal cryptides.

Hemocyanins (Hcs) are large, multi-subunit oxygen carrier proteins found in the hemolymph of numerous arthropods and molluscs (Decker et al., 2007; Markl, 2013). Data gathered over the last decade has established Hcs as versatile macromolecules, contributing to development, homeostasis, hemostasis and immune defenses within marine invertebrates (reviewed by Coates and Nairn, 2014). Hc-derived peptides with anti-microbial properties have been recorded previously in shrimp (Destoumieux-Garzon et al., 2001; Qiu et al., 2014), crayfish (Lee et al., 2003) and a spider (Riciluca et al., 2012). To date, no Hc-derived AMPs have been observed for molluscs.

Abbreviations: AMPs, Antimicrobial peptides; FC, Functional unit; HdH1, *Haliotis diversicolor* hemocyanin 1; HtH1, *Haliotis tuberculata* hemocyanin 1; Hc, Hemocyanin; PO, Phenoloxidase.

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Despite the increasing number of mollusc species being brought into mariculture, particularly abalones (Hooper et al., 2007; De Zoysa et al., 2010; Zhuang et al., 2010), few studies have focused on molluscan immune defenses. In contrast, significant investment has been made in characterising shrimp and crab immunity, thereby establishing several groups of crustacean AMPs (Smith et al., 2010). In this study, we have identified a putative antimicrobial region (termed haliotisin) within the conserved loop sequence of functional unit (FU)-E of *Haliotis tuberculata* hemocyanin type 1 (HtH1). Synthetic peptides based on the amino acid composition of this region inhibited the growth/replication of Gram-positive (*Bacillus subtilis*) and Gram-negative (*Erwinia carotovora*) bacteria. Furthermore, *in silico* structural modelling of the most effective haliotisin peptides (3–4–5) revealed a linear α -helical structure. Data described here advocate a role for molluscan Hc in AMP production, and in doing so, enhances our understanding of respiratory protein function in innate immunity.

2. Materials and methods

2.1. Peptide synthesis

Peptides were purchased from Genescript Inc. (Nanjing, China). Peptides were purified by HPLC, with homogeneity described as >80% from the accompanying MALDI-ToF mass spectrometry data. Peptides were dissolved in sterile phosphate buffered saline (PBS), 50 mM NaPi and 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.6. Solubility issues encountered with peptides 3 and 6 were overcome by the addition of 0.1% *n*-dodecyl β -D-maltoside (DDM).

2.2. In silico identification of putative AMPs

The Antimicrobial Peptide Database (Wang et al., 2009) was used initially to identify/locate potential anti-microbial regions within all eight abalone Hc FUs (a–h). HtH1 was chosen because it is more abundant than isoform HtH2 (3:1) within abalone hemolymph (Keller et al., 1999), and due to the availability of the complete cDNA sequence (GenBank: Y13219.2, Lieb et al., 2000).

2.3. Sequence alignments and structural models of FU-E

Sequences of Hc FU-E from various mollusc species were aligned using Clustal Omega (Goujon et al., 2010; Sievers et al., 2011) and edited further in ESPrpt 2.2 (Gouet et al., 1999, 2003): *Haliotis tuberculata* (gi:7159826, gi:27368649), *Haliotis diversicolor* (gi:255046234), *Megathura crenulata* (gi:560177105, gi:94013939), *Rapana venosa* (gi:31076723), *Nucula nucleus* (gi:57335438, gi:57335436), *Helix lucorum* (gi:346987844), *Melanoides tuberculata* (gi:549438767), *Sepia officinalis* subunit 1 (gi:88657467), *Aplysia californica* (gi:62679967), *Sepiella maindroni* (gi:543869159), *Euprymna scolopes* (gi:674268754) and *Nautilus pompilius* (gi:56710669).

Structures of abalone Hc FU-E were predicted initially using the online server I-TASSER (Zhang, 2008), and then flexibly fitted to the corresponding density map (EMDB ID: 2503) that had been segmented in UCSF Chimera using MDFF (Patterson et al., 2004; Trabuco et al., 2008), to build the pseudoatomic model of FU-E from isomeric HdH1 (Zhu et al., 2014). The crystal structures of *Rapana thomasiana* (PDB-1LNL) and *Megathura crenulata* (PDB-4BED) were used as templates to construct the haliotisin region of HtH1 FU-E. Potential peptide cleavage sites and carbohydrate binding sites were predicted using the ExPASy Bioinformatics Resource Portal (Gasteiger et al., 2005). A 3D model of haliotisin peptides 3–4–5 (DTFDYKKFGYRYDSLELEGRSISRIDELIQQRQEKDRFTAGFLKGFSGTSAS) was assembled using the QUARK algorithm (Xu and Zhang, 2012) and edited in UCSF Chimera.

2.4. Antimicrobial assays

2.4.1. Radial diffusion assay (RDA)

The antimicrobial activity of the haliotisin peptides against Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria, *B. subtilis* and *E. carotovora* respectively, was performed as described previously (Banas et al., 2013). Briefly, bacteria were grown in Luria–Bertani (LB) media to mid-logarithmic phase and used for subsequent experiments at 10^5 or 10^4 colony-forming units (CFU)/mL. The bacterial suspension was applied to LB agar (2%) to produce microbial lawns. Sterile 4-mm-diameter filter discs were then placed onto the agar, with 10–20 μ L (0–50 μ M) of peptide added to each disc. Plates were incubated at 30 °C for 16–24 hours and monitored closely for zones of inhibition.

2.4.2. Minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC)

Bacteria were grown in LB at 30 °C and diluted to 10^6 CFU/mL in PBS, pH 7.6. Peptides were diluted in PBS also. The bacteria and diluted peptides were mixed in equal-volume, followed by incubation at 30 °C for 2–3 hours. At the end of incubation, bacteria were placed on LB agar and incubated at 30 °C overnight for measurements of minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC). The lowest concentration of peptide that resulted in the highest level of inhibition was used to define the MIC. All experiments were carried out in triplicate.

2.5. Transmission electron microscopy

To investigate the effect(s) of synthetic haliotisin-peptides on bacterial cell morphology, *B. subtilis* and *E. carotovora* were treated with higher concentrations ($2\times$ MIC) of P3 (2 μ M) and P4 (~5 μ M) for 30 minutes at 30 °C. Approximately 10 μ L of the bacterial/peptide suspension was loaded subsequently onto Parafilm. Next, formvar-membrane-coated copper grids were placed onto the bacteria for 5 min, covered in 2% phosphotungstic acid (PTA; negative staining) for 30 s and dried at room temperature. Samples were observed using a HITACHI H-7650 transmission electron microscope (TEM).

3. Results

The complete amino acid sequence of HtH1 (GenBank, Y13219.2) was used conveniently for *in silico* analyses and the identification of candidate AMPs. Multiple peptide sequence alignments (Clustal Ω) revealed that the putative antimicrobial region of HtH1 FU-E, termed haliotisin, is highly conserved amongst molluscs (Fig. 1A): 84% identity with HdH1, 71% with *Haliotis asinina* Hc (partial), 70–71% with Hcs 1 and 2 from *M. crenulata* and $\geq 58\%$ similarity to Hcs from *N. nucleus*, *N. pompilius*, *E. scolopes*, *S. maindroni*, *A. californica*, *S. officinalis*, *H. lucorum*, *R. venosa* and *M. tuberculata*.

By employing the recently published cryo-EM structure of HdH1 (Zhu et al., 2014) and the crystal structures of *R. thomasiana* (PDB-1LNL; Perbandt et al., 2003) and *M. crenulata* (PDB-4BED; Gatsogiannis and Markl, 2009) Hcs, a homology-based model representative of HtH1 was constructed successfully (Fig. 1B). The conformational model detailed the location of FU-E (containing haliotisin) to the centre of the asymmetric unit of the Hc decamer (in agreement with Meissner et al., 2000). The haliotisin-region (C1002–L11028) is visible in a loop arrangement, between the four α -helix (core)-domain and the β -sheet (sandwich)-domain.

Eight synthetic overlapping peptides (Fig. 1C) were designed to represent a variety of net charges and % hydrophobicity (see supplementary Table S1). Each peptide (P1–P8), ranging in size from 2.2 kDa to 3.2 kDa, was tested for their ability to inhibit/prevent growth of *B. subtilis* (Gram +) and *E. carotovora* (Gram –) using radial diffusion assays (Fig. 2, supplementary Fig. S1). Peptide 3 (P3) corresponding to the internal region D1034–R1053 of Hc FU-E

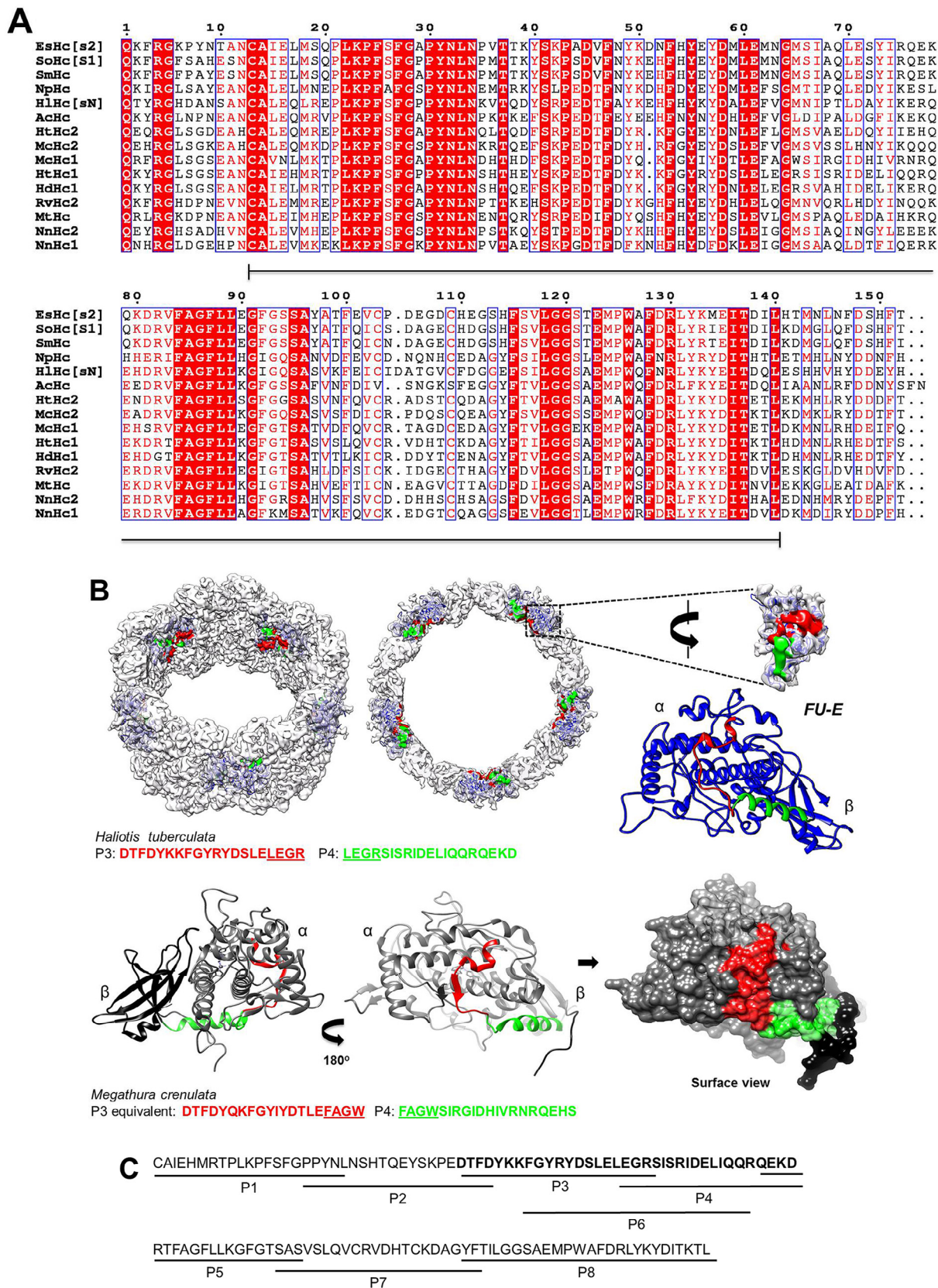


Fig. 1. Sequence and structural properties of abalone hemocyanin. (A) Multiple sequence alignments of the haliotisin region (underlined) from selected mollusc hemocyanins (FU-E) demonstrate high levels of similarity. Hc, hemocyanin; Es, *Euprymna scolopes*; So, *Sepia officinalis*; Sm, *Septiella maindroni*; Np, *Nautilus pompilius*; Hl, *Helix lucorum*; Ac, *Aplysia californica*; Ht, *Haliotis tuberculata*; Mc, *Megathura crenulata*; Hd, *Haliotis diversicolor*; Rv, *Rapana venosa*; Mt, *Melanoides tuberculata* and Nn, *Nucula nucleus*. (B) Structural views of the abalone hemocyanin decamer and modelled FU-E (ribbon structure). The haliotisin peptides 3 and 4 are coloured in red and green, respectively. The α -helical (grey) and β -sheet (black) domains of *Megathura crenulata* hemocyanin FU-E (PDB: 4BED) are provided for context. (C) The amino acid sequence of haliotisin detailing the location of each overlapping synthetic peptide (1–8). (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

A

Species	Minimal inhibitory concentration of (poly)peptides							
	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	P8
<i>B. subtilis</i>	-	-	0.3–1 μ M	-	-	2–3 μ M	-	-
<i>E. carotovora</i>	3–4 μ M	4–5 μ M	-	1.6–2.6 μ M	1.2–1.5 μ M	0.5–0.8 μ M	-	-

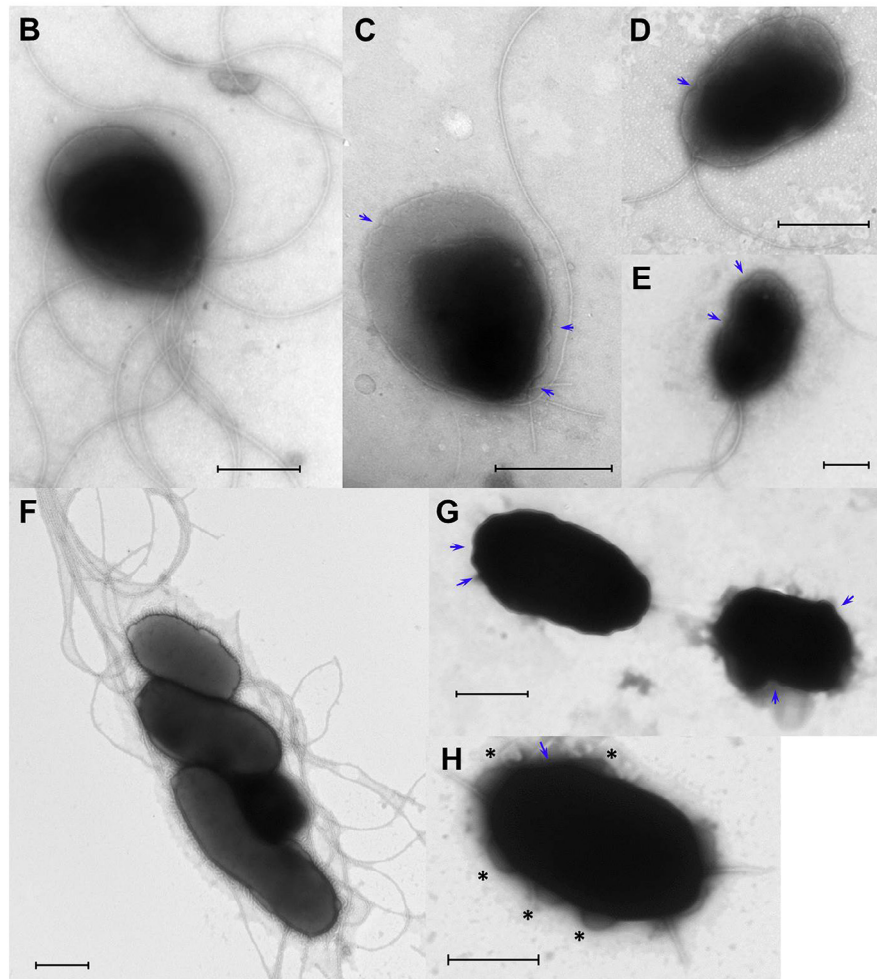


Fig. 2. Antimicrobial properties of abalone hemocyanin-derived peptides. (A) The bactericidal activity of each synthetic peptide against *B. subtilis* and *E. carotovora* are represented by MIC (μ M) values. B shows untreated (control) *E. carotovora*. Images C, D and E depict *E. carotovora* incubated with peptide 4. F is untreated (control) *B. subtilis*. Images G and H depict *B. subtilis* incubated with peptide 3. Cell wall abnormalities are highlighted by arrows and blisters/blebs are indicated using *. Significant reductions in numbers of flagella/pilli can be seen in treated bacteria. Each scale bar represents 0.5 μ m. Images are representative of experiments carried out on three independent occasions.

demonstrated the strongest anti-proliferative activity against *B. subtilis*. After incubating *B. subtilis* lawns with filter discs containing P3 or P6 (K1040–R1065) for 24 h, clear zones of inhibition were recorded (supplementary Fig. S1). P3 was the more effective peptide with an MIC value in the range of 0.3–1 μ M. P6, lacking the N-terminal amino acids of P3, was twofold less effective at killing bacteria (Fig. 2A). This suggests that the N-terminal proportion of P3 may interact with a particular epitope present on *B. subtilis*. Peptides 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 displayed anti-microbial activity against *E. carotovora* (Fig. 2A). P6 was the only peptide to inhibit both Gram + and Gram – bacteria; possibly due to the fact that its composition is made up of sequence motifs representative of P3 and P4 (Fig. 1C). Transmission electron micrographs of *E. carotovora* incubated in the presence of P4 (Fig. 2C–E) and *B. subtilis* incubated in the presence of P3 (Fig. 2G and H) depicted morphological abnormalities compared to control samples, absent peptides (Fig. 2B and F). Alterations visible in treated bacteria included reduced numbers

of flagella ($\geq 75\%$), fragmentation of pilli and the appearance of blebs/blisters on the cell surface. The cell wall of P4-treated *E. carotovora* appeared damaged and irregular, in contrast to the uniform nature of untreated bacteria (Fig. 2B).

Upon exposing *B. subtilis* to an equi-molar concentration (10 μ M) of P3 and P4, bactericidal activity was enhanced (supplementary Fig. S1). A P3/P4 combination did not lead to higher activity against *E. carotovora*, however, P5 in combination with P4 were more effective at killing *E. carotovora*. Collectively, P3–P4–P5 (Fig. 1C) likely constitutes a continuous peptide (29% hydrophobic content; 6.75 kDa; Fig. 3A) with strong antimicrobial properties. An *in silico* model of P3–P4–P5 (D1034–S1085) illustrates a linear α -helical polypeptide with clearly defined hydrophobic and hydrophilic regions (Fig. 3B). While P3 and P4 transverse the wall of the hollow Hc cylinder (Fig. 1B), a proportion of halotisin (V1086–T1096) is located at the external surface of the protein (Fig. 4), thereby providing proteases with access to predicted cleavage sites that immediately follow P3–P4–P5. The

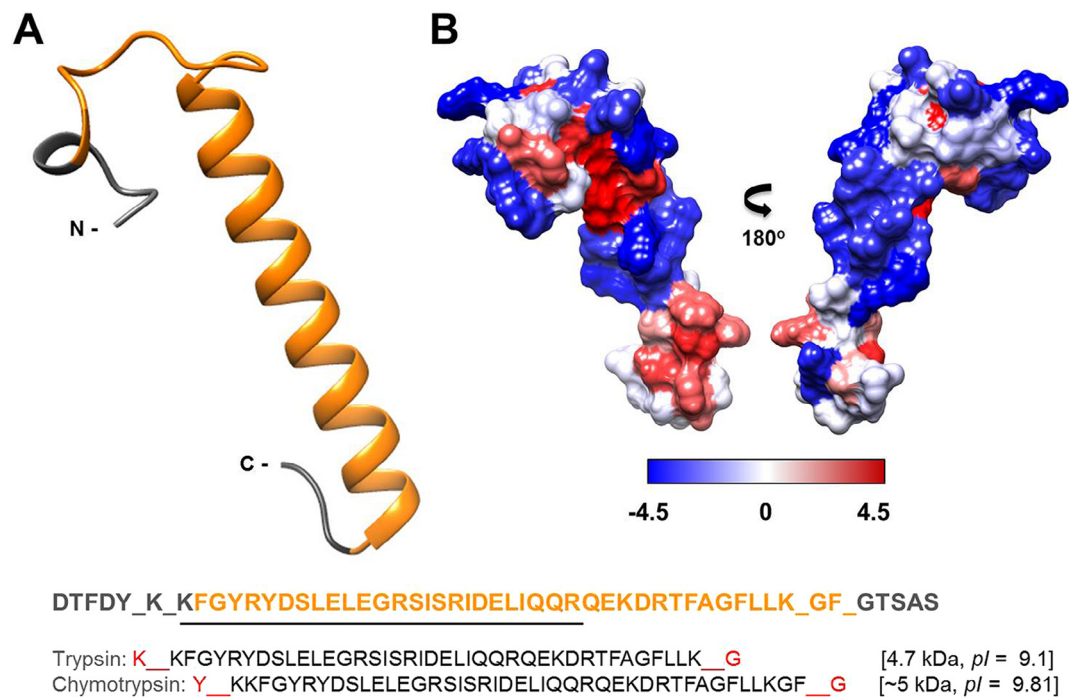


Fig. 3. In *silico* model of haliotisin peptides. (A) Using the QUARK algorithm, a 3D model of peptides 3, 4 and 5 was constructed. The secondary structure (represented by ribbons) of the 52 amino acid stretch forms a large linear α -helix. The underlined section of the sequence indicates haliotisin peptide 6. Potential cleavage sites of serine proteases, trypsin and chymotrypsin, were calculated using the ExPASy Bioinformatics peptide cutter tool. The likelihood of trypsin and chymotrypsin proteolysis at the highlighted (red) residues is 100% and 91%, respectively. (B) Surface hydrophobicity of the peptide model was predicted in UCSF Chimera by adopting the Kyte–Doolittle scale. Blue represents hydrophilic residues (Arg, -4.5) and red represents hydrophobic residues (Ile, $+4.5$).

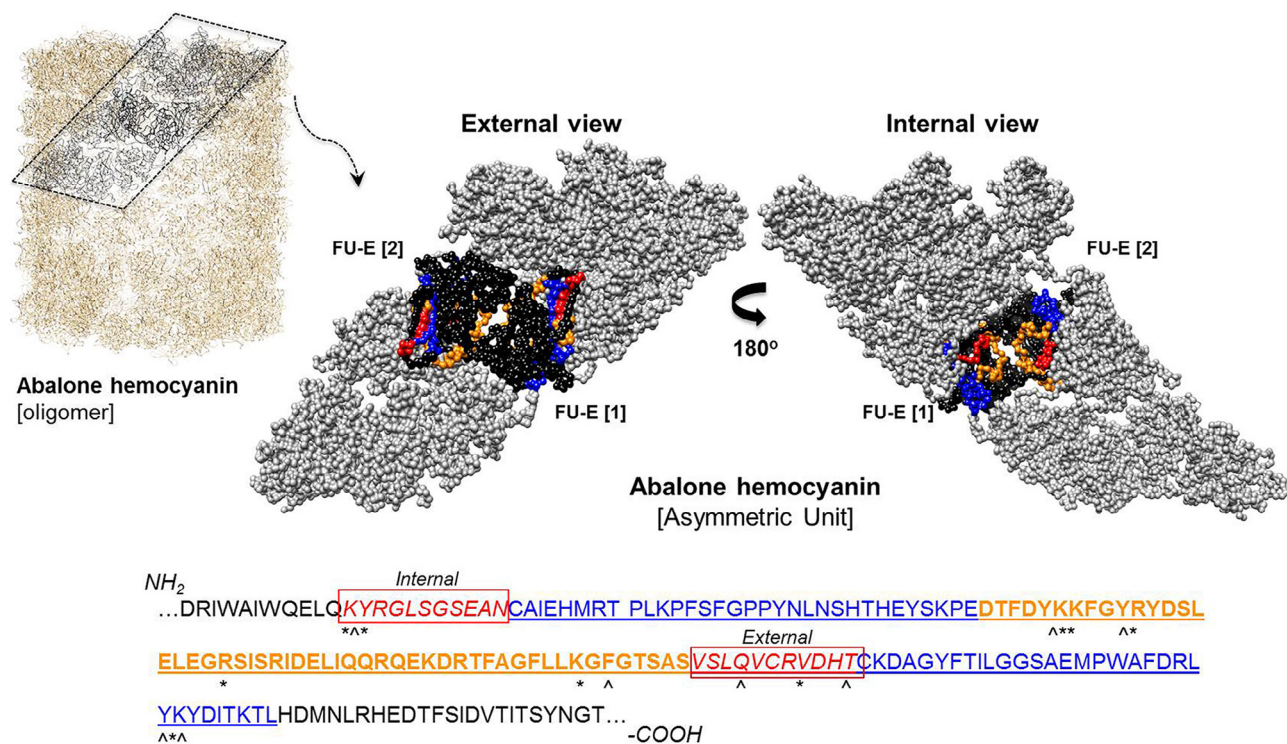


Fig. 4. Location of putative proteolytic cleavage sites associated with the haliotisin region. Using the pseudo-atomic model of Hth1 (guided by Hdh1 (PDB 3J32)), the location of the haliotisin region (blue and orange) within the abalone hemocyanin oligomer and asymmetric unit are presented. The external loop (VSLQVCRVDHT) of the haliotisin region protrudes the surface of the protein and is clearly visible in the external view of the asymmetric unit. * and ^ represent predicted trypsin and chymotrypsin cleavage sites, respectively. (Peptide sequences were screened using the ExPASy Peptide Cutter.) (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

serine proteases trypsin, chymotrypsin and protease K were identified as the most promising (82–100% likelihood) enzymes to detach P3–P4–P5 from Hc (Figs. 3 and 4). Trypsin and chymotrypsin directed proteolysis of P3–P4–P5 could generate cationic peptides that are between 4.7 kDa and 5 kDa in size, containing 31% hydrophobic residues and adopting mainly α -helical structures (Fig. 3). Although HtH1 FU-E contains a number of putative N-linked and O-linked carbohydrate binding sites, none are located within/near the haliotisin region (supplementary Fig. S2).

4. Discussion

Few AMPs have been described previously in molluscs, especially gastropods (Li et al., 2011). De Zoysa et al. (2009) identified a novel antimicrobial region, named abhisin, on histone H2A from the abalone *Haliotis discus discus*. Synthetic abhisin peptides were able to prevent the replication of yeast and bacteria. Incubation of yeast (*Pityrosporum ovale*) in the presence of abhisin peptides led to gross perturbations in the microbial cell wall and cytoplasmic membrane; symptoms similar to those observed here for haliotisin-treated bacteria (Fig. 2). In another study, De Zoysa et al. (2010) monitored nucleotide expression patterns of a defensin-like AMP in *H. discus discus* challenged with pathogenic microorganisms. Although transcripts of defensin were expressed constitutively in all tissues sampled, transcript abundance in hemocytes, gills and the digestive tract escalated during sepsis by *Vibrio* species. Anti-viral bioactives have also been isolated from the hemolymph of abalone (*Haliotis laevis*) infected with herpes simplex virus (Dang et al., 2011). The present study examines a previously uncharacterised region of abalone Hc FU-E, designated haliotisin, which appears to perform an anti-infective function. Haliotisin is highly conserved amongst molluscan Hcs (Fig. 1A) and synthetic peptides designed on the amino acid composition of this region targets both Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria. The variation in bacteriostatic performance of each peptide is likely conferred by their individual epitopes, e.g. P3 against *B. subtilis* (Figs. 1C and 2 and supplementary Fig. S1).

In arthropods, Hc-derived peptides ranging in size from 1.2 kDa to <8 kDa and displaying broad-spectrum microbicidal properties have been recorded in a number of species. Strict fungicidal peptides originating from Hc were isolated from *Penaeus stylirostris* (LVAVTDGDADSAVPLHENTENHYGSHGVY, VTDGDADSAVPLHENTENHYGSHGVYPDK) and *Litopenaeus vannamei* (FEDLPNFGHIQVKVFNHGEHIHH) hemolymph (Destoumieux-Garzón et al., 2001). More recently, Qiu et al. (2014) cloned cDNA from *Fenneropenaeus chinensis* Hc and expressed two fragments that displayed up to 91% sequence identity with the aforementioned shrimp Hc-derived AMPs. These synthetic anionic peptides performed both fungicidal and bactericidal activities. Lee et al. (2003) purified an Hc-derived peptide, astacidin 1 (FKVQNQHGVVQVIFHH), from the hemolymph of crayfish *Pacifastacus leniusculus*. The concentration of astacidin 1 within crayfish hemolymph increased dramatically upon exposure to microbial ligands, indicating a distinct role for Hc-derived peptides in immune defence. Riciluca et al. (2012) isolated a 1.2 kDa anti-fungal peptide, termed rondonin (IIIQYEGHKH), from the tarantula *Acanthoscurria rondoniae*. Rondonin showed almost complete sequence identity to a number of spider Hc subunits. In all cases, these AMPs are found within the C-terminal domain (III) of arthropod Hc subunits (Coates and Nairn, 2014). Domains II and III of arthropod Hc subunits are functionally equivalent to the α -helical and β -sheet domains of molluscan FUs, respectively. Hence, it is unsurprising that the haliotisin region characterised here occupies the C-terminal domain of abalone Hc FU-E (Fig. 1B). As all known Hc-derived AMPs are positioned away from the dicopper centres, their anti-septic properties are unlikely due to metal binding sites. FU-E is situated centrally on the hollow

Hc cylinder in a D5 symmetric pattern (Figs. 1B and 4), and within this FU, the haliotisin-region exists in a looped configuration that spans a number of structural motifs (helices, sheets and turns) (Fig. 1B). Interestingly, *in silico* modelling of the continuous peptide DTFDYKKFGYRYSLELEGRSISRDELQQRQEKDRFTAGFLKGFSGTSAS (P3–P4–P5) detached from the Hc oligomer yields a linear α -helical arrangement (Fig. 3A), stereotypical of the class of linear cationic α -helical AMPs. A key feature of this particular class of AMPs is the distinct lack of cysteine residues. Although every Hc-derived peptide documented to date lack cysteine residues (Coates and Nairn, 2014), it does not necessarily indicate helix formation, as astacidin 1 forms a β -sheet structure in solution (resolved by CD and NMR spectroscopy) (Lee et al., 2003). Collectively, the discernible amphipathicity of the P3–P4–P5 model (Fig. 3B) and the cell wall deformities observed for bacteria exposed to these peptides (Fig. 2) allude to pore formation as the mode/mechanism of microbe killing.

The flexibility of the haliotisin loop structure would permit some movement between the two structural domains (α and β). The removal or relocation of the β -domain away from the α -domain is considered widely to be the mode of activation of Hc-d PO in molluscs, with similar structural alterations associated with the conversion of Hc into an immune-enzyme in crustaceans and chelicerates (Baird et al., 2007; Coates and Nairn, 2013; Coates et al., 2011, 2013; Cong et al., 2009; Decker and Rimke, 1998; Dolashki et al., 2011; Hristova et al., 2008; Lee et al., 2004; Siddiqui et al., 2005, 2006). It is postulated that inactive arthropod Hc is processed via a yet uncharacterised proteolytic cleavage, resulting in a loosening of the tertiary structure thereby enabling Hc-derived PO activity and the release/generation of bioactive peptides. Supporting this theory, Jiang et al. (2007) documented the induction of PO activity and subsequent synthesis of reactive oxygen species in horseshoe crab Hc induced by microbial extracellular proteases, while Lee et al. (2003) proposed that a cysteine protease was responsible for cleaving crayfish Hc to produce astacidin 1. Through a similar combination of host- and microbe-directed mechanisms, haliotisin peptides of HtH1 FU-E may be liberated by serine protease-like enzymes (Figs. 3 and 4), and in the process could disturb the structural elements surrounding the dicopper (catalytic) centre of Hc, ultimately providing phenols with a mode of entry to the copper-bound O₂. It should be noted that serine proteases are crucial for the activation of invertebrate prophenoloxidase (zymogen) into fully functional PO (Cerenius et al., 2010), and have also been confirmed as inducers of Hc-derived PO, *in vitro*.

The presence of haliotisin within HtH1 FU-E (Fig. 1B) is intriguing, as FU-Es of molluscan Hcs are known to possess immune-functionality. Dolashka et al. (2010) reported on the ability of glycosylated Hc FU-E from whelk (*R. venosa*) to interact with herpes simplex virus type 1 and prevent viral replication. More recently, Zhu et al. (2014) discovered an isomeric form of Hc from virus-infected abalone (*H. diversicolor*). The authors noted conformational changes in the isomeric Hc (in contrast to native Hc) leading to partial loss of FU–FU interactions between neighbouring asymmetric units, and strikingly, an enhanced ability of isomeric Hc FU-E to oxidise diphenols. Presently, our data describe an additional role for molluscan Hc that entails the formation of anti-infective peptides. It is possible that Hc is targeted by proteases during infection so that AMPs can be cut-out and disseminated into the surrounding hemolymph.

Further work is needed in order to clarify the precise mechanism(s) involved, and physiological conditions necessary for AMP release from invertebrate Hcs. Enhancing our understanding of molluscan innate immunity is essential for circumventing microbial outbreaks in cultured stocks and helping to identify novel bioactive compounds that address antibiotic resistant bacteria.

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Appendix: Supplementary material

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at doi:10.1016/j.dci.2014.11.008.

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